Extension of LPG facilities to rural areas

2494. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for extending LPG facility to the rural areas ; and

(b)what is the number of LPG connections released during the year 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) No, Sir. Oil industry is at present covering towns with a population of 20,000 and above (as per 1981 Census) in a phased manner, for providing LPG facility. However, rural areas falling on the periphery of towns having LPG facility or those in the hilly or desert areas are being provided LPG facility.

(b) During the year 1988-89, oil companies had released approximately 11.62 lakhs of LPG connections all over the country.

Prices of Dexamethasone and its salts

2495. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the producers of Dexamathasone and its salts and what was the production of each during the last four years, year-wise ;

(b) whether it is a fact that these drugs were not specified in the first schedule under DPCO, 1970;

(c) if so, what were the prices of bulk drugs declared by each producer ;

(d) what were the prices fixed by each producer for each pack of each of their formulations;

(e) whether it is a fact that these drugs were covered under Drug Prices Control Order, 1979 ;

(f) if so what were the prices fixed for these drugs and their formulations and when were the same revised ; and

(g) what was the revised price of each formulation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) The details of production of Dexamethasone bulk drug during the last four years are given below :

Unit/KGS .

Name of the Company	Production			
	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Merind Ltd.	160.65	169.14	236.32	134.00
Cadila Labs.	53.31	51.89	84.86	104.00
Lupin Labs.	..	27.96	..	..

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The only company of M/s Merind Ltd. (formerly known as M/s Merck, Sharpe and Dome of India Ltd.) producing this drug prior to 1979 declared a price of Rs. 92.62 per gram and Rs. 195·37 per gram under DPCO, 1970 in respect of Dexamethasone pure and Dexamethasone 21-phosphate respectively.

(d), (f) and (g) The prices of Dexamethasone pure and Dexamethasone 21-phosphate were revised to Rs. 51.30 and Rs. 55.10 per gram respectively under DPCO, 1979. The details of prices fixed for the formulations from time to time are quite voluminuous. The time and efforts required for collection of these details will not be in commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Production of Penicillin G First crystal

2496. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of quantity of Penicillin G First crystal for 6 APA, worked out by Department of Chemicals for year 1989-90 and the criteria adopted there-for;

(b) what is the target of indigenous production of Penicillin G first crystal for 1988-89 and its expected production ; and

(c) whether there was any shortfall in delivery of Potassium Penicillin G first crystal from entitlements in 1988-89 and if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) The details of indigenous Penicillin G for 1989-90 is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below) For allotment of Penicillin G, there are three types of units. The first category consists of old units, whose entitlements for the period 1988-89 were fixed on the basis of best lifting in 1986-87 or 1987-88 plus a growth rate of 33% thereof. In 1989-90, these units have been given 15% growth rate over the entitlement calculated for 1988-89. Second category is of those units who were asked to lift the indigenous material first and aliowed import on that basis at a ratio of 30 (indigenous) : 70 (imported) for 1988-89. This year, these units have been given a growth rate of 33% over the lifting done by them during last year, but the minimum entitlement for any of these units has been fixed at 18 MMU per annum. The third category is of those units who will come into production this year i.e., 1989-90 and their entitlement for the indigenous Penicillin G has been fixed at the rate of 1.5 MMU per month.

(b) IDPL and HAL together supplied 454 MMU of indigenous Penicillin G during 1988-89 to the manufacturers of 6 APA/7 ADCA. The projected availability of Penicillin G from IDPL and HAL in 1989-90 is 686 MMU.

(c) The indigenous entitlements of 10 old and regular units for Penicillin G for the year 1988-89 was fixed at 340.33 MMU and against that, as reported by IDPL, HAL and Alembic, supplies to the extent of 314.502 MMU of indigenous material was made.